Measles Outbreak Recommendation Statement for Adults and College Students Vaccine Advisory Committee

Washington State Department of Health

Final, July 2002

The Washington State Department of Health Vaccine Advisory Committee (VAC) has reviewed the recommendations for use of measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine issued by the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and considered their implications for the state of Washington. Based on available clinical studies, the VAC makes the following recommendation for use of MMR vaccine in adults.

Persons who are likely to be exposed during outbreak situations (e.g. teachers, child care providers, health care workers and office staff) should have received two doses of measles vaccine, unless they have serologic evidence of immunity to measles. Both doses should have been received after 1968 and separated by at least 28 days.

The VAC recommends two doses of measles-containing vaccine spaced by 28 or more days for students entering college who were born during or after 1957 unless they have documented serologic evidence of measles immunity.

This is consistent with prior ACIP recommendations (MMWR, Vol. 47, No. RR-8, May 22, 1998, p. 38).

The VAC recommends the DOH Immunization Program work with key constituents to increase public and provider education and awareness about the MMR vaccine for adults during outbreak situations and the availability of a safe and effective vaccine.